

Meeting Minutes
CJCC Subcommittee
Programming Evaluation and Outcomes
US Bank Building 207
2:30-3:30pm

Present: Randy Van Osdol (chair), Jim Cashell, Steve Ette, Shelly Johnson, Jack Pollari, Connie Campbell, Andrea Lower

Absent: Sam Casey

ACTION ITEMS:

- Andrea will bring their intake form to the next meeting.
- Steve and Shelly will send info on cognitive and thinking errors to Connie for YJC
- Look at the <http://www.ncjrs.gov> website for best practices

Discussed the three sub goals:

A. Sub-goal #1 - To establish a productive working relationship with the supervising agency to receive background information on the offender target population (Gallatin County Detention Center and the Gallatin County Re-entry Center).

Andrea reported that pre trial sees about 2/3 of the intakes for the detention center. About 1/3 of the cases are booked and released outside of their office hours. Andrea will bring the instrument that they are currently using to see if will serve the needs of this group.

Questions that were raised included:

- Is there already a method in place for the courts to give us access to the screening information that the detention center, re-entry center and pre-trial have?
- How much will the Public Defender's office want to be involved in this program? It was assumed that they might not be able to release info about their clients and that they would hopefully use the program as an alternative for their clients.
- Will we be trying to get clients coming in to the detention center or as they leave the detention center?

B. Sub-goal #2 - To investigate, evaluate and identify several evidence-based best-practices that could be replicable in Gallatin County.

Questions that were raised included:

- How will we evaluate the clients for the program?
- Will participation need to be strictly voluntary, with clients signing a waiver?

Current best practices currently reported by Steve and Shelly include:

1. Therapeutic Community Behaviors
2. Dialectical Behavior
3. Cognitive and thinking errors

Jim shared that the National Criminal Justice Information Site (NCJIC) has more evidence-based practices. Jack shared about his recent visit at the Billings Municipal Court with Judge Mary Jane Knissley. There was some discussion as to whether she would come and share what she is doing with the judges. Andrea stated that Judge Salvagni already has a good relationship with her and that might not be needed at this time.

C. Sub-goal #3 - To develop and employ a quality survey instrument that will measure recidivism rates and outcomes to determine if and when the Reducing Recidivism Project has accomplished its mission.

Questions and concerns that were raised included:

- What works? What Doesn't. There is a *.pdf file attached with a summary of a report on What Works and What Doesn't.
- Jim expressed concern about the way the statistics are reported. Although recidivism is measured at 70%, that number is misleading. There are 14,000 currently under supervision in MT (out of a population of 1,000,000). There are less than 2000 in MSP and 600-700 in other prisons around the state.
- If we target those populations in the county that are DUI and PFMA, we would need to get the judges to write the orders for additional follow-up with this program.
- It was then suggested that perhaps we should consider changing the target population to include those in Treatment Court only to help support a current program that is already judge supported and has about a 50% failure/success rate.

These questions will be presented to the Subcommittee at the August meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Connie Campbell